GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1388
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2000
PROTECTION OF TRIBAL LANGUAGE AND CULTURE .
HARIBHAU MAHALE;P.R. KHUTE

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have developed any system to protect the tribal language and culture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of universities of Madhya Pradesh and other States where courses regarding tribal language and culture are being conducted and proposed to be conducted?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SUMITRA MAHAJAN)
(a) to (c) The Government of India has evolved several strategiesfor the protection of tribal language and culture. The government in the Department o f Culture administers a scheme whereunder financial assistance is provided to voluntary organisations and individuals engaged in the preservation, promotion and dissemination of Tribal/folk Arts and Culture. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been created exclusively to look after the affairs relating to the tribals including the protection of their language and culture. The Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore has undertaken extensive researchin the area of 80 tribal languages. The State Governments too have their own projects for this purpose.
Universities are independent entities and regularly undertake studies/projects on tribal culture. Ravi Shankar University, Raipur, has set up Departments of Linguistics and Anthropology for the promotion of tribal languages and culture. Other Universities that promote tribal languages and culture include North Eastern Hill University, Shillong; RanchiUniversity, Ranchi, Jharkhand; Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu; Deccan College, Pune; Arunachal University, Itanagar; Osmania University, Hyderabad; and Karnataka University, Dharwar.
Further, Government organisations like the Anthropological Survey of India, Calcutta, the Language Division of the Registrar General of India, Calcutta; and also the National Council for Educational Research & Training. New Delhi undertake programmes related to tribals.